THEY ARE THE ONLY GOVERNMENT LOTTERIES STILL OPERATED.

Italy the Mother Land of Lotteries-The National Lettertes Maintained in Italy New as a Public Institution Demanded by the People-A Large Source of Public Revenne-Is it a Blessing or a Curse !- History and Features of the System-How it In Administered-Carlons Turns of Fortune -How Winning Numbers are Foretold,

Rome, Dec. 20.-The question whether publie lotteries are a public blessing or a public curse has in no country in the world been so carefully, patiently, and intelligently studied by the light, not of theory only, but of long practical experience, as in Italy. The word offery itself is of Italian origin, and it was by the great republies of mediaval Italy that public lotteries were first established under conditions at all resembling those in which these institutions have flourished and borne their good or evil fruits in England and in the The first public lottery was established in England by one of the Parliaments of the great Protestant champion king. William III., in 1634, when a sum, enormous for those days, of £1,200,000 was voted for that purpose. It was an expedient of the Treasury, then struggling with the problem of a national debt. The opponents of the scheme denounced it as of Italian, and therefore of I apal origin. The partisans of the lottery responded, after the usual English fashion, with an appeal, not to argument, but to results. "Hold your tongues." they said to their adversaries, "the lottery has captured Namur." There was no denying this. But for the sum raised by the public lottery the siege of Namur must have been abandoned by English King. In the face of this fact it was of no use for the great economist, Sir William Petty (the ancestor of Lord Lansdowne, who lins dropped, by the way, his not very imposing surname to adopt that of Fitz Maurice!) to describe the lottery as "a tax on unfortu-nate self-conceited fools." On the contrary, On the contrary. his verdict of Sir William Petty may almost be thought to-day to offer a most cogent reason for establishing and maintaining public lotteries all over the world. "A tax on nfortunate self-conceited fools" ought to be a very productive tax everywhere, a tax easily raised, and cortainly if it has a tendency to diminish the supply of "unfortunate self-conceited fools" a tax in the interest of public weal. Perhaps was the consideration which led Gen. Washington to look with favor on lotteries!

At all events, the public lottery system. established in 1634, was not formally abolished in England till the last years of the reign of George IV. The public lottery system came from Italy into France also at the end of the seventeenth century. It had found its way as an experiment, tried and then abandoned, into both countries long before. It was tried in England in the reign of Elizabeth, it was brought into France together with the fine acts of Italy, under Francis I. But it was only to the year 1700 that Louis XIV, first ordained the establishment of the Royal Lottery of Franca The edict of the Grande Monarque recites that his Majesty "having observed the natural inclination of the great majority of his subjects to invest money in private lotteries and in those founded by the communes for charitable purposes, as well as in the foreign latteries of Rome, Genoa, Venice, Florence, Milan, and Vienna in Austria," had made up his royal mind to take the whole business under his paternal control so as to insure his subjects "an agreeable and convenient way of assuring themselves of good income for the rest of their lives."

The Royal Lottery of France, thus begun, existed and flourished almost down to our own times. It was reorganized with careful regulations under Louis XVI. in 1776, not rithstanding the severe condemnation of the institution by Buffon, Condillac, and other weighty authorities. It was completely abolished, on a motion by Theuriot, during the chacs of the first French republic, on the 5th of November, 1793, only to be reestablished again in 1797, and it was finally legislated out of existence in 1836 by a law of the monarchy of July, the spirit of which, if not the letter of it. might with advantage, perhaps, have been remembered by the lawgivers of the third French republic when, under the inspiration of M. Cornelius Horz and the late Baron de Reinach, they authorized the grand lottery loan of the Panama Canal. It may well be doubted whether in the century and a half during which the national lottery of France flourished it can possibly have wrought any re-

See of critical results of the search in the centery were perfiche upon declared which the national interry of Praces of Prace

many nor in Italy in the last century was the quinquino recognized, but it was recognized in France, and the heaven-born winner of a quinquino received 1.000,000 times his stake, together with premiums varying for the three classes of tickets from 8.000 to 3.000 france. THRICE IN SIXTY YEARS A QUINQUING CAME!

THERCE IN SEXTY YEARS A QUINQUINO CAME!
It is a matter of tradition that during the sixty years through which the national lottery flourished in France a quinquino was three times drawn, but it is a matter of arithmetic and of calculation that the chance of drawing a quinquino under the old French lottery was one out of 43,949,100! Under the French lottery charitable institutions and hospitals were put forward as the permanent beneficiaries of the lottery systems by way of silencing the moralists who objected to the institution, but the part assigned to benevolence in the financial management of the lotterles was a very secondary part. sileneing the moralists who objected to the institution, but the part assigned to benevolence
in the financial management of the
lotteries was a very secondary part.
Like almost all other sources of the
nublic revenue under the old regime
the royal lottery was farmed out, and from
the accounts of the Government for the year
1787-8, heing the last year before the beginning of the great revolution, it appears that
the income of the royal lottery, over and
above the amount paid out in prizes and premiums, was 10,205,000 francs, of which
amount 340,000 francs were paid by the
"farmer general" to charities and hospitals.
The total income of the French royal lottery
is given as 44,500,000 francs, of which
34800,000 were returned in prizes and premiums
to the players. From this it would appear
that the royal French lottery of the last century returned muchmore money proportionally
to the people than the Italian lottery of to-day,
which pays back in prizes about 180,000,000
lire out of 300,000,000, the estimated total annual investment in the institution.

It is a simple Matter to play the last tent.

IT IS A SIMPLE MATTER TO PLAY THE LOTTERT.

switches "A light" the "Seet" of the country would be something the country would be something the country would be something to the country w

at Venice. Saturday came, the numbers given by the old man were drawn at Venice, and the servant was rewarded—either for his benevolence or for his faith, who knows which?—by receiving from the Italian lottery no less a sum than 150 lire, or about \$30 of American money. How many other servants, not to say employers of servants, I wonder, hearing this, have since gone and done likewise, at least to the point of paying some casual old begar a few sold for numbers which probably did not come out in a drawing either at Venice or eisewhere? GAMBLING, LITTLE AND BIG.

for numbers which probably did not come out in a drawing either at Venice or eisewhere?

GAMBLING, LITTLE AND HIG.

The "combinations" recognised in the existing Italian lottery are five in number: A simple, a specified simple, an ambo, a terno, and a quaterno. The smallest sum which can be staked on a "simple," or semplice, is 8 centimes, or a little less than two American cents, and the winner of a simple receives 10 % times, and the winner of a simple receives 10 % times the amount of his stake. The smallest sum which can be staked on a "specified simple" is also eight centimes, and the winner receives 52% times the amount of his stake. On an ambo even two centimes may be staked, or less than half an American cent, and the winner receives 250 times the amount of his stake. On a terno also two centimes may be staked, and the winner of a terno receives 4.250. This, if the player chose to stake ten lire or even two lire on his "terno," would be a very pretty operation even is the opinion of Wall street, and perhaps operations occasionally made in Wall street, which, from the point of view of the cynical Sir William Petty, might not show very well an comparison with the investment of 10 lire on an Italian terno! On a quaterno the Italian Government allows any man in the street to stake 4 centimes if he has them, or less than an American cent, and if his quaterno which a poor man, by an investment of 50 cents a year, can give himself fifty-two times in hat year the intoxicating pleasure of hoping that he may within some week of that year receive in return for an investment of less than a cent, a snug little capital of nearly \$500.7 At all events, a good many thoughtful, sensible, and honest Italian public men sloutly maintain that there is something to be said for such a system. Anybody who can show that these Italian public men sloutly maintain that there is something to be said for such a system. Anybody who can show that these Italian public men don't know what they are taking about is of course at liberty to

which there or Malor is good many times when yet he was a state of the work of the common that and white since, and have killed 100 in Aller and Many died I have been and and the common that any in the common that the common that the common that are search in the common that the common

SWITTERLAND AND PRANCE

New Departure in European Reini BRENE, Jan. 1 .- One somewhat unexpected but not unnatural consequence (it cannot be called a result), of the Panama scandals, which are shaking the actual Government of France to its foundations, must not be allowed to pas without notice in America. Its importance, direct and indirect, to the commercial interest and to the future commercial policy of the United States will be apparent. On the last day but one of the session of the

French Parliament, the commercial treaty be-tween France and Switzerland, negotiated by Jules Roche and supported by the Ribot Government, was rejected by the Chamber. M. Jules Roche himself, it must be remembered, is one of the persons involved in the charges of corruption, which have grown and multiplied with such amazing and alarming rapidity since the dramatic suicide of Baron de Reinach, the flight of Cornelius Herz to England, and the some what tardy and theatrical interposition of the French Government to paralyze the action of M. Brisson's parliamentary committee of inquiry by arresting M. Charles de Lessons and other directors of the Panama Company. In all cases of corruption there must, of course, be two parties-one who corrupts and the other who is corrupted. The parliamentary comclans corrupted by the Panama Company, and as it seemed in a fair way to find too many of them. M. Bourgeois, in behalf of the Cabinet struck upon the idea of diverting public attention from this troublesome and threatening inquest, by attracting public attention to the alleged corrupters of his parliamentary friends and colleagues. How the idea will work in regard to the scandals and the politics of France remains to be seen. How it has already worked, so far as concerns the ability of the Cabinet to defend its own policy in matters of the gravest practical interest to France, is shown by the defeat of the France-Swiss Commercial treaty.

This defeat is a triumph of the French protectionists, and of what is called the reaction-ary or Royalist party in France. The agricultural and manufacturing classes in France were opposed, the commercial classes in the main were friendly, to a modification of the customs duties between France and Switzerland in the direction of liberal conces-sions to the Swiss. M. Jules Roche and the supporters of the proposed new treaty showed conclusively by facts and figures that the high taxation upon Swiss products entering France has for some time past had the effect of increasing the commercial relations between Switzerland and Germany and of diminishing the commercial relations between Switzerland and France. The French protectionists met this demonstration, after a method long famillar in these discussions, by affirming that Switzerland could not possibly get on without the wines and manufactures of France, the incontestable superiority of which to the wines and manufactures of all other countries in the world must compel Switzerland, whether she likes it or not, to take whatever France would let her have on such terms as the agriculturists and manufacturers of France might choose to dictate. The Ribot Government, at its wits' ends in the whirl of the Panama scandals, seems so far to have lost control of the Chamber for practical and commercial purposes that the protectionists carried their point and the new treaty with Switzerland was rejected. This event has for some time past been anticipated at Berne, and the Swiss Government will undoubtedly meet the action of the French Chamber by promptly raising new barriers against the introduction of French products into Switzerland, and probably also, by lowering still further the Swiss barriers to commerce, not only as between Switzerland and Germany, but as between Switzerland and Italy. More than a year ago THE SUN called atten-

tion to the rumors, which were at that time in the air, of the possible establishment of a great commercial tollere n or customs union, ombracing not only the three great powers of the Triple Alliance, but also the federal re-public of Switzerland. It was then pointed out not fail to exercise a very serious influence. not upon the commerce and industry only, but upon the politics of Central Europe, Were Switzerland to come into a close commercial and customs union with the German empire with Austria-Hungary and with Italy, it is

BLEPRANT'S IVORY AND ITS USES. How This Costly Material is Carved Into

When Mr. Whitelaw Reid was in search of a workman to decorate apartments at Ophir Farm with rich and beautiful antiques brought over from Europe, he found that there was but one man in America who could do such work. and he lay slok. Had Mr. Reid been in search of skilled ivory carvers, he would have found them almost as scarce. There are not above three or four Ivory carvers of approved skill in New York, and hardly so many in all the rest of the country. The men who do such work are paid high wages the year round, whether busy or idle. They are Frenchmer, Germans, and Italians. Of the three the Italians are perhaps the most skilful, since ivery carving has been an art in a high degree of perfection among the Italians for centuries. The most famous Ivory curver living, however, is a Frenchman, Moreau Vauthier, Few of his masterpleces have been seen in America. though two were sold at the famous Morgan art sale of a few years ago, and two more, held at a great price, are now in the possession of a

noted American jeweller.

The ivory carvers of this country do little or nothing in the East Indian or Japanese manner, nor do they occupy themselves with figure work. Their chief employment is in producing decorative toilet and stationery articles. The rage for stained and carved ivery is of recent growth in the United States, and the demand for such articles is not large, as they

ing decorative toilet and stationery articles. The rage for stained and carved it siy is of recent growth in the United States, and the demand for such articles is not large, as they are more coally than the rame articles in silver would he. They were produced to tickle the jaded asthetic ralates of the rich and lux what they will, indulge themselves to any considerable degree in carved ivory.

In all such articles the cost of the raw material is small in comparison with that of the labor. Billiard balls are costly because they contain large quantities of the finest ivory cut from the best part of the tusk. The labor cost of billiard balls is trifling, as they are turned by machiner, and rapidly. Thus it of ten happens that a single small article, richly stained and carved, will cost five times as much as a billiard ball containing ten times he weight of ivory. The carvers of ivory use much the same tools as the wood carvers, but of lighter and more delicate make. The work is extremely tedious and laborious. The carving is usually done in low relief, and the subjects are such as are suitable to this treatment. Itersian designs in delicate curves, the cactual room part articles are suitable to this treatment. Itersian designs in delicate curves in the cactual room construction and more relief, and the subjects are suitable to this treatment. Itersian designs in delicate curves the cactual room part articles are suitable to this treatment. Itersian designs in delicate curves the cactual room part articles are suitable to this treatment. Itersian designs in delicate curves the cactual room part articles of the carving of the Alaskan Indians. The cactual room part articles of the carving of the Alaskan Indians. The cactual room part articles of the carving of the Alaskan Indians. The cactual room part is a secret guarded well by the carvers.

Some notion of the cost of twory carving may be had from the fact that while a land mirror framed in plain ivory may be had for \$10 or \$12.a mirror in carved ivory cost from \$

ONE CURE FOR INNOMNIA.

A Simple and Inexpensive Remedy Within Reach of All.

"Jason," said Mrs. Calliper to her husband, Mrs. Gratebar tells me that her husband is

suffering from insomnia."
"I imagine." said Col. Calliper, "that Mr. Gratebar's case is simply one of worry. Some men worry about everything, you know, and some don't worry at all. One soldier, for instance, at the end of a long day's march, when you might suppose he would be so tired that he must sleep, may lie awake half the night worrying about the battle that is to be fought to-morrow; it may be that the very next man in the ranks will scrape together a little mound of earth for a pillow, wrap bimself in his blankets, and lie down and sleep, grateful for the chance, and leaving to-morrow to take

cars of itself.
"Insomnia that is due to worry may sometimes becared by the very simple method of resolutely and persistently turning one's thoughts in another direction. You've me speak of my friend Darius Jetby of Storkville Centre, Vt.? Darius and I roomed to gether for a time. He had just started in busi

me speak of my friend Darius Jotby of Storkville Centre. Vt.? Darius and I roomed together for a time. He had just started in business. He was an energetic, hustling young
fellow, and he prespeced and extended his
business very largely, too much in fact, and
the first thing he knew he had a great lot of
trouble on hand, and it worried him more than
you can imagine. It didn't make any differsuce what time of night I might wake up, if I
looked across the room I was gure to see Darius awake and tossing about in his hed worrying about his business troubles and trying to
see some way out of them.

"What made it worse for him was that he
was engaged, and expected to be married in
about a year. He had bought a lot, and had
set his heart on having a house built and
ready to move into when he was married, but
it looked now as though he would have to give
that up. One night, when things were almost
at the worst. I saw him sleeping as soundily as
though everything was going along smoothly,
and when I naked him about it in the morning
he seld that he had made up his
mind the night before that he would
let his business go for that night and
think about something else; he had
a lot of notes coming due, and trouble enough
in sight to keep him awake for a week; but he
knew that it wouldn't do any good to lie awake
worrying about it, and so he made up his mind
that he would just begin digging the cellar of
his house; that is, in his mind, you know, and
as that sort of digging is very cheap, he dur a
good deep cellar, with plenty of head room,
and he became so interested in this that he
forget all about his business, and he went to
sleep and got a good night's rest, and woke up
refreahed and bester able to face his troubles
than he had for a month.

"Well, Darius went ahead building his house,
and, under the circumstances, he felt free to
were he had for a month.

"Well, Parius went ahead building his house,
he had planned it in his mind, and he never
forgot the leason which he building of it enlough his troubles w

Literary Robbers in Lookout Mountain Cave.

From the Courie . Journal. Chartanooda, Tenn., Jan 3.—A gang of rob-bers have been holding forth in the Lookout dountain cave. Constable Hoseborough and his bloodhounds tracked the men to the cave, and, after a struggle, arrested four of them, three white men and a negro. There were six men in the cave, but two excaped. Many stoler articles were recovered, among them several magazines which the thieves read by the fire-light. HOME FROM THE SOMALIS.

Capt, Dundan's Pluck-Unarmed in a Crowd

of Threatening Natives. Capt. P. G. Dundas of the Royal Navy, who has just returned to England from his ex-pedition up the Juba River, tells of the danger he faced among the Somalis, who are perhaps the most inveterate enemies of the white race in Africa. The Cautain ascended the river for 300 miles on the little steamer Kenia. It is the first time this journey has been made since August, 1835, when Earon von der Decken attained the same point. His vessel was wrecked there, and the Baron and five of his European colleagues were murdered by the large that a colleagues were murdered by the Somalis, only two of the party es aping.

When the British Admiralty was conducting soundings and manning the court line of East Airien the indomitable fomalis sat by the thousands along the beach, silently watching operations and making no hostile movement unless the white men undertook to land. On such occasions the fornalis plainly told them that if they landed they would be killed to a man. It was the same people whom Dundas and his little party encountered as he ascended the Juba River in July last. When he reached Berdera, his furthest point, he found the whole tank swarming with natives. His crew, in terror, begged Dundas to turn tack. He made the boat fast, however, to the right bank and sent a Somail interpreter to talk with the excited crows. The native reasond down to the handing piece, breadising their spears and threatening to kill the interpreter if he came usince. So Dundas ordered him to return to the vessel.

citied crowst. The natives russed down to the landing place, brandlishing their spears and interated by the landing place, brandlishing their spears and threateding to kill the interpreter if he came ashore. So Dundas ordered him to return to the vessel.

That alk it the explorer heard that a large body of natives wasto attack the vessel for motives wasto attack the vessel for middle stream. At 11 P. M. a large number of natives were seen on the shore moding among the trees. Suddenly they dashod into the river and swam towned the vessel, Just as they were clambering on board, intending doubtless to kill every man in the party. Dundas fired a sound signal, the neverity of which he hoped would infimiate the savages. The signal was most effective. It burst in mid-nir with a loud report, and the natives made for the banks in terior.

Next morning Capt. Dundas adopted an expedient which probably not one man in many thousands would care to carry out. He suddenly lande I among the Somalis at their big town. To interpreter was with him and both men were unarmed. He pushed through the threatening crowd to the shelk, expecting half dozen spears through his lack every moment as the natives pressed around him with weapons poised. He walked up to the shelk, wino appeared to astonished for words. "Aman, said Dundas. The word meant pense. He told his interpreter to tell the chief that he meant him no haim and wished to be a friend.

"How dare you come among us unarmed?" said the shelk, sterrity. "Do you not know that you are complete y in my power and that I can easily make an end of you?"

Capt. Dundas replaced that he might do so if he lived, but he hind done the chief and his people to harm, and why should they not be friends. If the Inperial East Africa Company had desired to sais the Soundi country, he would have come with a large force instead of a landful of mea.

The chief was apparently dumfounded by the hardinood of his visitor. After a few miles to the rapids where Baron ven der Decken's under such versel, that com

Snow Storm in a Ballroom

From the Argenaut.

From the Argonomic.

A strange thing happened at a dance given by a member of the Russian nobility long ago. The night was hitter coid, but the coid, bleak winds did not reach the interior of the ball-room. Here there were warmth and comfort, and the gay dancers became overheated and they perspired freely. The air of the room, having I een dry and like a sponge, quickly absorbed the moisture from their persons. A liussian Count, being uncomfortably warm, opened a window, which admitted a current of coid air, and the after ward and instantaneous. Immediately a part of the moisture was turned into little crystals, shining silver while, that floated in the all, and, to the astonishment of all, there was a miniature snow storm in the midst of the gay through



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Backache.

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Bearing-down . ling causing pain, weight, and backache, is instantly relieved and permanently cured by its use. Under all circum-stances it nets in harmony with the laws that govern the female system, and is as harmless as water. It removes

Irregularity, Suppressed or Painful Menstruations, Weakness of the Stomach, Indigestion, Bloating, Flooding, Nervous Prostra-tion, Headache, General Debility, Also

Dizziness, Faintness,
Extreme Lassitude, "don't care" and
"want to be left alone" feeling, excitability, irritability, nervousness, sleeplessness, flatulency, melancholy, or the
"blues," and backache. These are
sure indications of Female Weakness,
some derangement of the Uterus, or Womb Troubles.

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